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| 10/081,173      | 02/22/2002  | David C. Collier     | 213                 | 2754             |

31665 7590 10/19/2006

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| EXAMINER |
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WORJLOH, JALATEE

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3621

DATE MAILED: 10/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/081,173

Applicant(s)

COLLIER, DAVID C.

Examiner

Jalatee Worjloh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 July 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8,9,12,15-22,25,28-35,38,41-47 and 52-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8,9,12,15,16,22,25,28,29,31-35,38,41,42,44-47 and 52-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 17,30 and 43 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. This Office Action is responsive to the amendment filed July 24, 2006, in which claims 1, 6, 8, 9, 16-18, 22, 29-31, 35, 38, 42-45, 52, 54 and 55 were amended and claims 13, 14, 27, 28, 39, 40, 48, 49 and 51 canceled.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims 1, 18, 31 and 52 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

3. As for claim 6, Applicant's arguments filed July 24, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Particularly, Applicant argues that Hori et al.'s license key corresponds to Applicant's content key, not license key. Notice, claim 6 is rejected in view of Franzdonk and Hori et al. Franzdonk teaches at least one license key and said material encrypted with said at least one content key and providing the at least one content key encrypted with said at least one license key. However, Franzdonk does not teach the process of transmitting the license key and through different communications channels to said licensee. Hori et al. teach a license server that encrypts the content information and distributes the content data to the licensee over the cellular phone network (see col. 6, lines 19-22) and sending the licensee key from the memory card (See col. 15, line 66 – col. 16, line 1). It is known in the art that license servers distributes license keys; therefore the encrypted content information and license key that is distributed by Hori et al. license server is the license key taught by Applicant invention.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 15, 28 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Particularly, Claims 15 and 28 recite “plurality of license keys are used one-at-a-time in a *predetermined fashion*”. It is unclear what is intended by “predetermined fashion”. Please consider revising the claim for clarity.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1,2,4,8, 9, 18, 19, 21,22,31,32,34, and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Publication No. 2005/0021467 to Franzdonk in view of US Publication No. 2005/0273862 to Benaloh et al.

Referring to claim 1, Franzdonk discloses providing at least on license key (i.e. license containing a protected encryption key) to a licensee of material, i.e. content (see paragraph [0108]), providing said material in at least one MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted with a content key to said licensee (see paragraphs [0121] & [0048] – the distributed content is encrypted utilizing a

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content key. The content provider may utilize MPEG-4 IPMP compliant solutions to encrypt MPEG-4 data; thus, the encrypted content is a MPEG-4 bit stream.), and providing a content key encrypted with said at least one license key to said license in an IPMP stream provided along with said material (Notice, the content is encrypted with a content key to generate an encrypted content (see paragraph [0048]); the content is then provided to the user (i.e. start streaming the content item to the appropriate content destination- see paragraph [0108]) in an IPMP format (see paragraph [0121])). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose a plurality of content keys or the MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted by a plurality of content keys for corresponding time periods of said material. Benaloh et al. disclose a plurality of content keys (i.e. different keys) and the MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted by a plurality of content keys for corresponding time periods (i.e. partitions) of said material (see abstract – digital content is provided and comprises multiple partition sets, with each partition set comprising a first partition and at least one different version of the first partition. Each partition of each partition set is uniquely marked and encrypted with a different key and paragraphs [0068] & [0069] – the content can comprise the audio stream of a movie or video stream). Thus, the encrypted MPEG-4 bit stream of Franzdonk can be encrypted by a plurality of content keys/different keys for corresponding time periods/partitions of said material. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Franzdonk to include a plurality of content keys or the MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted by a plurality of content keys for corresponding time periods of said material. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides an additional level of security thereby protecting digital content from piracy (see paragraph [0002] of Benaloh et al.).

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Referring to claim 2, Franzdonk discloses providing a license authorizing said licensee to use said material (see paragraph [0084]).

Referring to claim 4, Franzdonk discloses at least one license key is provided along with said license to said licensee (see paragraph [0108]).

Referring to claim 8, Franzdonk discloses the method wherein said content key encrypted with at least one license key and said material encrypted with said at least one content key are provided by transmitting them over an authenticated secure channel to said licensee (see paragraph [0082] – SSL). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose a plurality of content keys. Benaloh et al. disclose a plurality of content keys (see abstract – different keys). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Franzdonk to teach a plurality of content keys. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides an additional level of security thereby protecting digital content from piracy (see paragraph [0002] of Benaloh et al.).

Referring to claim 9, Franzdonk discloses providing said material encrypted with a content key to said licensee, comprises encrypting said material in real-time with said content key (See paragraph [0093]) and providing said material encrypted with said at least one content key to said licensee by transmitting it as streaming media (see paragraph [0108]). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose a plurality of content keys. Benaloh et al. disclose a plurality of content keys (see abstract – different keys). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Franzdonk to teach a plurality of content keys. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated

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to do this because it provides an additional level of security thereby protecting digital content from piracy (see paragraph [0002] of Benaloh et al.).

Claim 18 is an apparatus configured to perform the steps of claim 1 above; therefore, this claim is rejected on the same rationale as claim 1 above.

Referring to claims 19 and 32, Franzdonk discloses said at least one server (i.e. digital rights agent) is further configured to transmit a license authorizing said licensee to use said material (see paragraph [0084]).

Referring to claims 21 and 34, Franzdonk discloses wherein said at least one server is further configured to establish an authenticated secure channel with said client device and transmit said at least one license key along with said license to said client device over said secure channel (see paragraph [0082] – SSL).

Referring to claims 22 and 35, Franzdonk discloses at least one server comprises a license server (i.e. digital rights agent) configured to transmit said at least one license key (i.e. license containing a protected encryption key) to a client device (i.e. secure device) (see paragraph [0108]) and a data providing server (i.e. digital rights agent) configured to transmit said material encrypted with at least one content key (see paragraphs [0048] – the distributed content is encrypted utilizing a content key), and said at least one content key to said client device, i.e. secure device (Notice, the content is encrypted with a content key to generate an encrypted content (see paragraph [0048]); the content is then provided to the user (i.e. start streaming the content item to the appropriate content destination- see paragraph [0108]). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose a plurality of content keys. Benaloh et al. disclose a plurality of content keys (see abstract – different keys). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious

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to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Franzdonk to teach a plurality of content keys. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides an additional level of security thereby protecting digital content from piracy (see paragraph [0002] of Benaloh et al.).

Claim 31 is a system that performs the steps of claim 1 above; therefore, this claim is rejected on the same rationale as claim 1.

8. Claims 3, 20, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franzdonk and Benaloh et al. as applied to claims 2, 19, and 32 above, and further in view of US Publication No. 2004/0030656 to Kambayashi et al.

Franzdonk discloses usage rights (i.e. access policy) (see paragraph [0085]). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose the license includes a plurality of usage rights for using said material. Kambayashi et al. disclose the license includes a plurality of usage rights for using said material (see paragraphs [0073] & [0075]). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the license disclose by Franzdonk to include a plurality of usage rights for using said material. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it restricts content usage and prevents unauthorized use of the content.

9. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franzdonk and Benaloh et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of US Patent No. 6898708 to Hori et al.



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Referring to claim 5, Franzdonk discloses providing license key (see paragraph [0108] – a license containing a protected encrypted key). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose the license key is encrypted with a public key of said license to said licensee. Hori et al. disclose providing said at least one license key is encrypted with a public key (see col. 23, lines 41-43). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Franzdonk to include the step of providing said at least one license key is encrypted with a public key. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides an additional level of security.

10. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franzdonk in view of Hori et al.

Referring to claim 6, Franzdonk discloses providing at least on license key (i.e. license containing a protected encryption key) to a licensee of material, i.e. content (see paragraph [0108]), providing said material in at least one MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted with a content key to said licensee (see paragraphs [0121] & [0048] – the distributed content is encrypted utilizing a content key. The content provider may utilize MPEG-4 IPMP compliant solutions to encrypt MPEG-4 data; thus, the encrypted content is a MPEG-4 bit stream.), and providing a content key encrypted with said at least one license key to said license in an IPMP stream provided along with said material (Notice, the content is encrypted with a content key to generate an encrypted content (see paragraph [0048]); the content is then provided to the user (i.e. start streaming the content item to the appropriate content destination- see paragraph [0108]) in an IPMP format (see paragraph [0121])). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose said at least one license key and

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said material encrypted with said at least one content key are provided by transmitting them through different communication channels to said licensee. Hori et al. at least one license key and said material encrypted with said at least one content key are provided by transmitting them through different communication channels to said licensee (see col. 6, lines 19-22 – the content is sent to the user over the cellular phone network and col. 15, lines 66, 67 & col. 16, line 1 – the license key is sent from the memory card). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Franzdonk to include the step of transmitting the license key and the encrypted material through different communication channels to said licensee. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides faster transmission and additional security.

11. Claims 12, 25 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franzdonk as applied to claims 1, 18, and 31 above, and further in view of US Publication No. 20010053222 to Wakao et al.

Franzdonk discloses a content key encrypted with said at least one license key (see claim 1 above). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose a plurality of content keys, at least one license key is mapped to corresponding portions of said material included in said at least one MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted with said at least one content key, by IPMP descriptors associated with said corresponding portions. Benaloh et al. disclose a plurality of content keys (see abstract – different keys). Wakao et al. disclose at least one license key is mapped to corresponding portions of said material included in said at least one MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted with said a content key, by IPMP descriptors associated with said corresponding portions (see paragraph

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[0070]). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method/apparatus/system disclose by Franzdonk to include the method wherein at least one license key is mapped to corresponding portions of said material included in said at least one MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted with said at least one content key, by IPMP descriptors associated with said corresponding portion and a plurality of content keys. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because MPEG-4 data streams allow a plurality of video scenes and video objects to be independently transmitted and received with a single stream and IPMP protects a copyright of data (see paragraphs [0006] & [0045] of Wakao et al.).

12. Claims 16, 29 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franzdonk and Benaloh et al. as applied to claims 1, 18 and 31 above, and further in view of US Patent No. 6865555 to Novak.

Franzdonk discloses at least one license key for encrypting a content key (see claims 1 and 18 above). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose a plurality of license keys for encrypting and decrypting said at least one content key and a plurality of content keys. Benaloh et al. disclose a plurality of content keys (see abstract). Novak discloses a plurality of license keys for decrypting said at least one content key (see col. 11, lines 17-28). Although Novak does not explicitly teach encrypting with these license keys, the examiner note that the method of Franzdonk may be modified to include the plurality of license keys of Novak therefore, the encrypting step of Franzdonk will utilize a plurality of license keys. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method/apparatus/system disclose by Franzdonk to include a plurality of content keys and a

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plurality of license keys for encrypting and decrypting said at least one content key. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides an additional level of security.

13. Claims 44 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franzdonk and Benaloh et al. as applied to claim 31 above, and further in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0046238 to Nonaka et al.

Referring to claim 44, Franzdonk discloses a client device that is configured to decrypt said encrypted material using at least one content key (see paragraphs [0087] and [0088]). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose the client device decrypt said encrypted at least one content key using said license key. Benaloh et al. disclose a plurality of content keys (see abstract). Nonaka et al. disclose decrypt said encrypted at least one content key using said license key (see paragraphs [0020] & [0021]). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system disclose by Franzdonk to include decrypt said encrypted at least one content key using said license key. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides access to the data.

Referring to claim 45, Franzdonk discloses said client is further configured to receive said at least one license key along with a license authorizing said licensee to use said material from said at least one server (see paragraphs [0084] & [0108]).

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14. Claims 46 and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franzdonk, Benaloh et al. and Nonaka et al. as applied to claim 45 and 48 above, and further in view of Kambayashi et al.

Franzdonk discloses usage rights (i.e. access policy) (see paragraph [0085]). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose the license includes a plurality of usage rights for using said material. Kambayashi et al. disclose the license includes a plurality of usage rights for using said material, wherein said client is further configured to use said material only in accordance with said plurality of usage rights of said license (see paragraphs [0073] & [0075]). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the license disclose by Franzdonk to include a plurality of usage rights for using said material. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it restricts content usage and prevents unauthorized use of the content.

15. Claims 52 and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franzdonk and Benaloh et al. in view of Nonaka et al.

Referring to claim 52, receiving a license to use material and at least one license key (i.e. license containing a protected encryption key) corresponding to said license (see paragraph [0108]), receiving said material in at least one MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted with a content key (see paragraphs [0121] & [0048] – the distributed content is encrypted utilizing a content key. The content provider may utilize MPEG-4 IPMP compliant solutions to encrypt MPEG-4 data; thus, the encrypted content is a MPEG-4 bit stream.), receiving said content key encrypted with said license key in an IPMP stream provided along with said material (Notice, the content is encrypted with a content key to generate an encrypted content (see paragraph [0048]); the

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content is then provided to the user (i.e. start streaming the content item to the appropriate content destination- see paragraph [0108]) in an IPMP format (see paragraph [0121]), and decrypting said encrypted material using said content key (see paragraphs [0087] and [0088]). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose plurality of content keys, the MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted by a plurality of content keys for corresponding time periods of said material and decrypting said encrypted content key using said license key. Benaloh et al. disclose a plurality of content keys (i.e. different keys) and the MPEG-4 bit stream encrypted by a plurality of content keys for corresponding time periods (i.e. partitions) of said material (see abstract – digital content is provided and comprises multiple partition sets, with each partition set comprising a first partition and at least one different version of the first partition. Each partition of each partition set is uniquely marked and encrypted with a different key and paragraphs [0068] & [0069] – the content can comprise the audio stream of a movie or video stream). Thus, the encrypted MPEG-4 bit stream of Franzdonk can be encrypted by a plurality of content keys/different keys for corresponding time periods/partitions of said material. Nonaka et al. disclose decrypting said encrypted content key using said license key (see paragraphs [0020] & [0021]). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by Franzdonk to include the step of decrypting said encrypted content key using said license key. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides an additional level of security thereby protecting digital content from piracy (see paragraph [0002] of Benaloh et al.).

Referring to claim 54, Franzdonk discloses wherein said encrypted content key is received with said encrypted material (see paragraph [0108]). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose plurality of content keys. Benaloh et al. disclose a plurality of content keys (i.e. different keys). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to a plurality of content keys. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides an additional level of security thereby protecting digital content from piracy (see paragraph [0002] of Benaloh et al.).

Referring to claim 55, Franzdonk discloses wherein said license, said license key, said encrypted material, and said encrypted content key are received electronically (see paragraph [0045]). Benaloh et al. disclose a plurality of content keys (i.e. different keys). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to a plurality of content keys. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides an additional level of security thereby protecting digital content from piracy (see paragraph [0002] of Benaloh et al.).

16. Claim 53 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franzdonk, Benaloh et al. and Nonaka et al. as applied to claim 52 above, and further in view of Kambayashi et al.

Franzdonk discloses usage rights (i.e. access policy) (see paragraph [0085]). Franzdonk does not expressly disclose the license includes a plurality of usage rights for using said material. Kambayashi et al. disclose the license includes a plurality of usage rights for using said material,

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wherein said client is further configured to use said material only in accordance with said plurality of usage rights of said license (see paragraphs [0073] & [0075]). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the license disclose by Franzdonk to include a plurality of usage rights for using said material. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it restricts content usage and prevents unauthorized use of the content.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

17. Claims 17, 30 and 43 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

18. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,



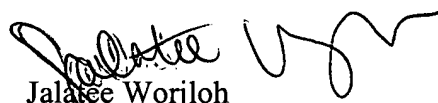
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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jalatee Worjloh whose telephone number is (571) 272-6714. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Thursdays 8:30 - 7:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Fischer can be reached on (571) 272-6779. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300 for Regular/After Final Actions and 571-273-6714 for Non-Official/Draft.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Jalatee Worjloh  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 3621

October 9, 2006